

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



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Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

0048000198

Boston N.

670

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 7 Fletcher Ave.

Historic Name

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1880s

Source Lexington Valuation lists; Maps

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage

Major Alterations (with dates)

South and rear additions (dates unknown)

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 0.2 A.

Setting On a side street of modest late 19th-century houses with some 20th-century infill

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

7 Fletcher Ave. is one of a number of front-gabled Italianates in Lexington. The house is rectangular, 2½ stories, two-by-three bays, and front-gabled with two side chimneys. It is set on what appears to be a concrete foundation but could be just concrete veneer, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. There are one-story shed-roofed additions on the south and rear elevations. The Italianate finishes are very similar to those on 8 Fletcher Ave. (MHC #671) directly across the street: paired brackets at the cornice (those on this house have drops), a two-story three-sided bay on the facade, milled brackets under the entry hood (again with drops), and a double front door with roundhead lights. There is, however, no one-story three-sided bay on either side of this house as there is at 8 Fletcher. At the rear is a three-car garage.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was probably built in the 1880s, for it is not shown on the 1875 map of Lexington Center but is on the 1889. It is apparently one of the houses for which Charles G. Fletcher, who owned the land on which it is located, was assessed in 1886 and thereafter. The reason for its similarity to the house at 8 Fletcher Ave. is not clear. Fletcher almost certainly built it as a rental property, as he did the houses now at 10–12, 11–13, 16, 17, 20, and 21 Fletcher Ave. (see Area form G), and perhaps had this house designed to match the one across the street.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Beers, F. W. *County Atlas of Middlesex Massachusetts*. New York: J.B. Beers & Co., 1875. Lexington Center plate.
Lexington Valuation Lists. 1883–1889.

Walker, George H. & Co. *Atlas of Middlesex County*. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1889. 191.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*